Application No.: 10/577,655 Docket No.: 0425-1257PUS1

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 directed to DNA encoding a protein having 16-position hydroxylating enzymatic activity, partly or entirely or its variant.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Marc S. Weiner, Registration No. 32,181 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

JUL 7 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Marc S. Weiner

Registration No.: 32,181

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant